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(4) To allow the Company to carry on all their money transactions through the Sirkar Treasuries.

(5) To allow the Company to deposit their unexpended amount in the Sirkar Savings Bank and to allow the Savings Bank rate of interest on such amounts.

(6) To permit all letters and money orders relating to the Company being sent through the Anchal, free of charge.

(7) To guarantee the purchase by the Government of all the shares that might be offered for sale by the shareholders.

(8) To publish in the Government Gazette all notices, prospectuses, rules &c., of the Company, free of charge.

(9) To give, free of compensation, the Sirkar lands on the line to be proposed for the Railway.

(10) To supply the Company with the necessary timber for the construction of the Railway, free of cost, from the Government Forests.

(11) To grant loans to the Company, whenever and to the extent required, at the Savings Bank rate of interest.

(12) To confer Honorary Magistrateships on deserving officers of the Company, if it be deemed necessary and unobjectionable.

(13) To confer titles of distinction on those who took 200 shares and more of the Company at a time or helped the Company in other ways.

(14) Generally to advise, help and co-operate with the Company and to take the lead in all matters undertaken by the Company.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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V. PUBLIC HEALTH, MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

(1). *Town Improvement Committees.*

47. ***Necessity for enlarging the powers of the Town Improvement Committees.***

Mr. K. C. Mamman Mappillai, B. A. (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) said that the Town Improvement Committees were much handicapped in several ways and that that circumstance detracted from their being the useful bodies that they were expected to be. Their staff was very limited and was below the minimum requirements. The control over the staff also rested with the Presidents and not the Committees. The committees had no power to revise or re-distribute the staff, not to speak of making any additions to it. The Committees were always short of funds, and neither the balance to the credit of the Town Funds nor the annual grants sanctioned could be utilised by

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them without the previous sanction of the Government. Their recommendations for increased staff or funds were more often vetoed than sanctioned. Sanction was also required to impose any new tax or toll and their proposals were not treated with consideration by the Government. Recently, the Committee at Kottayam had proposed the levy of a toll on carts coming into the town and stopping there for days to the detriment of the santitation of the town, but sanction was not given. Unless, therefore, the Committees were viewed as important bodies and greater trust reposed in them, and unless they were allowed wider powers and discretion in spending their funds, they could not serve the useful purpose that they were intended to do. The Member therefore requested that the Government might be pleased to take steps to improve the status and constitution of the Committees.

Mr. K. Krishnan Pandalay, B. A. & B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Quilon) said that, under the Rules dated 8th March 1910, all appointments under the Committee on Rs. 30 and below were disposed of by the President, and it was also competent to the latter to dismiss, punish, grant leave, in fact do everything, in the case of such men without reference to the Committee. In the case of the Quilon Committee, there was no appointment carrying a salary above Rs. 20, and that being so, complete control over the entire staff was now with the President. He said that, for the sake of discipline and better control over the establishment, the Committee should know how things were going on. It was not the intention that the Committee should have power over every member of the staff down to a scavenger, but the Sanitary Inspector of the Town, the highest paid among the staff and the chief executive officer, should at least be under the control of the Committee. This disability of the Committee, coupled with their helplessness in the matter of spending their money, placed the Committee in an awkward position, for, speaking for Quilon, the Committee had nothing more to do than to have the streets swept and the few lamps in the town lit. The Member therefore said that it was desirable that the position of the Committees should be improved from what it was.

Dewan's reply.—The matter will be considered.

48. *Establishment of a Town Improvement Committee at Ettumanur.*

Mr. Varkey Kora (Member, Ettumanur Taluk) said that Ettumanur was a large town containing a famous temple and a big church resorted to by large crowds of people every year. There was, besides, a large market at Athirampuzha, which was always in a dirty condition. It was

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